

What is claimed is:

1 *sub B* 1. A method of bending a sheet of glass heated  
2 nearly to a softening point thereof with a suction mold in-  
3 cluding a plurality of divided suction chambers having re-  
4 spective shaping surface areas, comprising the step of:  
5 developing vacuums in selected ones of the suction  
6 chambers at different times to attract the sheet of glass  
7 successively against the shaping surface areas thereof for  
8 thereby bending the sheet of glass complementarily to the  
9 shaping surface areas.

1 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said suc-  
2 tion chambers include a central suction chamber having a flat  
3 shaping surface area and a pair of opposite side suction  
4 chambers disposed one on each side of said central suction  
5 chamber and having respective curved shaping surface areas,  
6 said step of developing vacuums comprising the steps of:  
7 developing a vacuum in said central suction chamber  
8 to attract a central area of the sheet of glass against the  
9 flat shaping surface area thereof; and  
10 thereafter, developing a vacuum in said opposite  
11 side suction chambers to attract opposite side areas of the  
12 sheet of glass respectively against the curved shaping sur-  
13 face areas.

1 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said

2 step of developing vacuums comprises the step of developing  
3 different vacuums in the suction chambers.

1 *Sub B2* 4. A method of shaping a sheet of glass heated  
2 nearly to a softening point thereof with the shaping surface  
3 areas of a plurality of divided suction chambers defined in a  
4 suction mold, the shaping surface areas having suction holes  
5 defined therein, comprising the steps of:  
6 introducing a vacuum into one of the suction chambers  
7 to attract an area of the sheet of glass against the  
8 shaping surface area of said one of the suction chambers  
9 through the suction holes thereof; and  
10 thereafter, introducing a vacuum into another of  
11 the suction chambers to attract another area of the sheet of  
12 glass against the shaping surface area of said other of the  
13 suction chambers through the suction holes thereof.

add  
B<sup>3</sup>  
add  
D<sup>3</sup>  
add  
E<sup>2</sup>